DEVELOPMENT DATA RELAY SYSTEM FOR MONITORING HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AND CENTRAL FLORIDA

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ERTS-A

a. Title: Development Data Relay System for Monitoring Hydrologic Conditions in South and Central Florida.

ERTS-A Proposal NMC 272

b. GSFC ID No. of P.I.: IN 44

c. 1) To date I have received from ERTS-1 only imagery of Tampa Bay. I have not received my first image of Central and Southern Florida.

2) I have had an excellent rapport with my scientific monitor Philip Claibrone, however, to data I have not been able to contact Arthur Fihelly my technical monitor.

3) As of November I received all of my (DCS) Data Collection System equipment with the exception of one transmitter. However, I still have not received 12 of the Stevens recorders with the "modual-A" that I have requested.

4) The data multiplexing system vital to operation of the meteorologic stations, has not been delivered.

d. All ground truthing operations have been completed in the Everglades basin. Four DCS stations are reporting water-levels and precipitation data operating in the water-management area. Two DCS stations are now operating in the ecological management area (Everglades National Park) and are reporting

water levels and precipitation. A NASCOM (NASA Communication) line was installed into the Miami USGS office in December and we are receiving data approximately five times per day. Six additional stations have been prefabricated for installation in the water-management areas in January, 1973. If we receive the recorders for these stations they will go operational in January. We have also installed a station in our electronics laboratory at the USGS Building; this station is on the air and is used in Research and Development in interfacing different types of transducers before installing them in the field.

e. Water-level and precipitation data-collection platforms have been installed in the Everglades water basin. The data from these stations are relayed to the Miami office of the USGS via a NASCOM line. The data are then analyzed and disseminated to water-management agencies such as the U. S. Corps of Engineers and the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District. The data are reported in daily, weekly, and monthly reports to all interested government agencies by the water-management agencies. These agencies rely on the data that we are providing to manage the water regime in a 1,400-square-mile area.

f. I have decided to change one of the point site locations. I am switching our efforts from Biscayne Bay to Tampa Bay for the following reasons:

1) Tampa Bay satisfies all the basic requirements that we desired to investigate at Biscayne Bay.

2) We have not received any imagery of Biscayne Bay. However, we have received excellent coverage of the Tampa area.

3) Tampa Bay was a proposed ERTS-A project and we had begun an extensive effort in the ground truthing of that Bay.

4) Tampa Bay is a primary target in my SKYLAB proposal.

5) Gene Coker, USGS, WRD, Tampa, Florida, is proposing an extension of this effort for a ERTS-B proposal which would produce an effective product.

6) Finally, this seems the only way we can satisfy our commitment to look at bays and estuaries within this project as long as we are not receiving any data from ERTS of Biscayne Bay.

g. - k. Nothing to report